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abounds, nevertheless, in common sense. It suggests, also, thoughts well worth remembering when one sets out to perform the often difficult task of uncovering the commission of crime by means of circumstantial evidence. Among the more important and most interesting chapters are those on The *Tout Ensemble*, Character, Abnormality, Decoys, The Surroundings of Crime, Insanity, Genealogy, Hypnotism, and Rape. While some of these subjects necessarily are briefly treated, yet in all there is to be found information which is both helpful and new to the young practitioner. This appendix contains many concise statements of *causes celebres*, which are referred to in the text, and are striking confirmations of the statements therein contained. While the little book is not calculated to make a name for its author, it can, nevertheless, be read with interest and profit by the legal profession. *Benjamin F. Perkins.*

HAND-BOOK ON THE LAW OF DAMAGES. By WILLIAM B. HALE, LL.B. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 1896.

Mr. Hale has undertaken to give to the public a treatise upon the rules and principles governing the award of damages in civil cases compressed into a one volume work. "In view of the limitations of space," says the author in the preface, "it has been thought best to give the greater prominence to the discussion of the general principles underlying the whole subject, letting the application of those principles to special classes of cases fall into a subsidiary place." This system has been maintained throughout the work, and, as a result, an entirely satisfactory text-book has been given to the profession, containing references to about five thousand cases. The author has not attempted to treat the subject historically, nor has he indulged in much criticism of the decisions; he has seemingly bent every effort to gather all the important cases, and to extract from them the general principles. He divides the book into fourteen chapters, which cover the subject as follows: First, definition and general principles; second, nominal damages; third, compensatory damages; fourth, bonds, liquidated damages and alternative contracts; fifth, interest; sixth, value; seventh, exemplary damages; eighth, pleading and practice; ninth, breach of contracts for sale of goods; tenth, damages in actions against carriers; eleventh, damages in actions against telegraph companies; twelfth, damages for death by wrongful act; thirteenth, wrongs affecting real property; fourteenth, breach of marriage promise. The chapter relating to the law of damages in the case of wrongs affecting real property is especially interesting and worthy of particular mention, as is also the treatment of the subject of damages for death by wrongful act. The book is written in an intelligible style, and will, doubtless, be found useful, not only to the practitioner, but also to the student. Like the other books of the "Hornbook" series, the index, typography and general form are all that could be desired. *Thomas S. Gates.*